



Welcome to GeoCommunicator



The Bureau of Land Management and the U. S. Forest Service invite you to take a tour of GeoCommunicator.





Introduction to GeoCommunicator



GeoCommunicator

A module of the National Integrated Land System Project

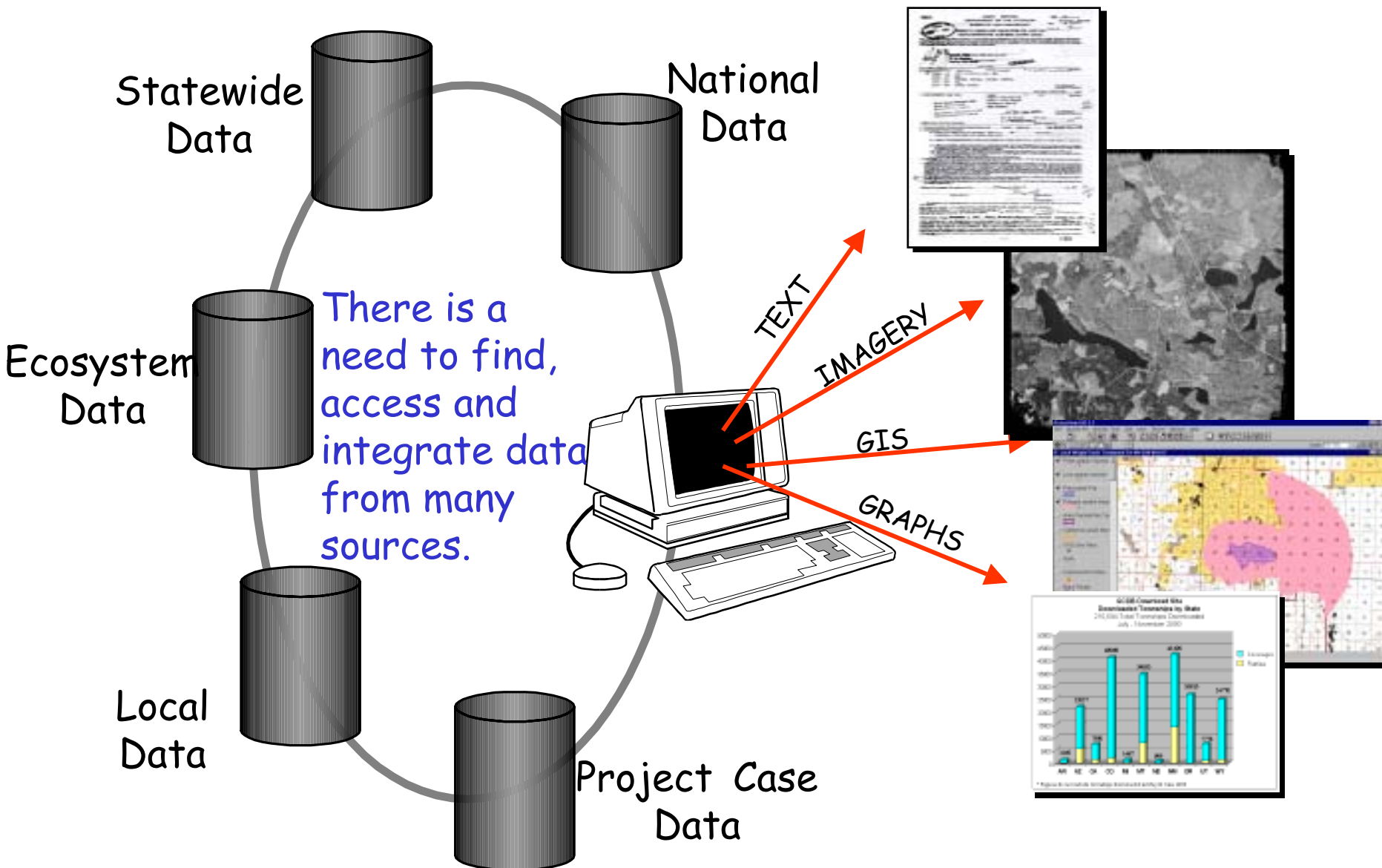
GeoCommunicator is an Internet web portal containing information and searchable links for users and data subscribers and providers with a common interest in cadastral land records, parcel data, and land management activities.

GeoCommunicator was developed by Federal, State, and County governments and private industry.





GeoCommunicator Source for Finding and Accessing Data

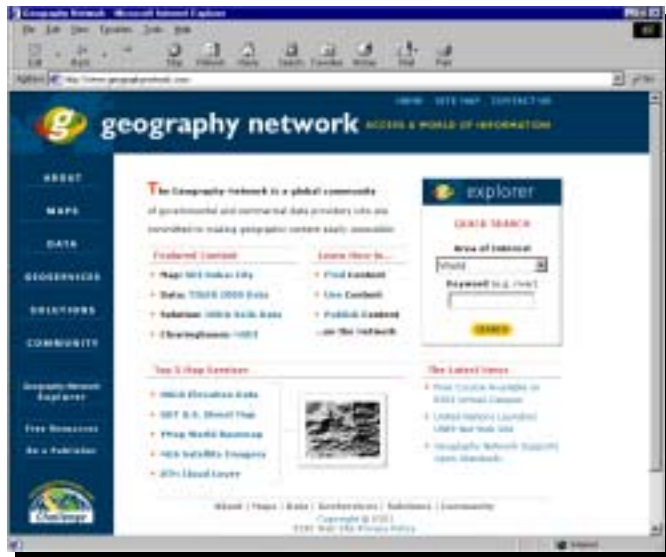




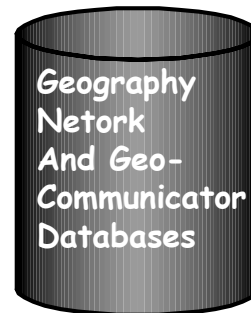
Powered by the Geography Network



GeoCommunicator shares common databases with the Geography Network



Publisher data



Search

Results



All published data is shared between both portals through a common database.



Focus on Land Records



GeoCommunicator is the **land records** version of the Geography Network.





GeoCommunicator Features



GeoCommunicator provides the capability to:

Communicate with others in the land resource community in [Forum](#).

Search for Land records related resources in [Reference](#).

Search for image and feature services, images, data sets, activities, references, clearinghouses, and more in [GeoCom Explorer](#). Subscribe to an area of interest and receive notification in [GeoCom Explorer](#).





GeoCommunicator Features-Continued



Discover the land management agency contact information for a piece of land in the [Land Manager Viewer](#).

Share your geographic data, maps, activities, and references in [Publish](#).

Download or stream the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) data from [Land Survey Information](#).





Become a Data Provider



Become a **data provider** and share your geographic data, images, references, activities, and events with others.

GeoCommunicator provides **links** to the "**data source**" reducing the need to download and maintain duplicate data sets.

Use our **on-line publisher** forms to register.

GeoCommunicator - Publisher Registration - Netscape

File Edit View Go Communicator Help

Website: <http://gntesting.esri.com/geocom/register/profile.cfm?>

Bookmarks: NILES LR2000 LRPD GCDB geocom.gov GeoCom BLN Internet BLN Internet Weather Underg

Back Forward Reload Home Search Netscape Print Security Shop Stop

GeoCommunicator
Powered by the Geography Network

Home
About
Forum
Reference
GeoCom Explorer
Land Manager Viewer
Publish: Data, Activities, and References
Land Survey Information
Contact
Learn to: Search, Use,

Publisher Registration

If you would like to publish content through the GeoCommunicator, please enter the registration information requested below. Contact information will be made available to Web and GIS users interested in obtaining the maps or data that you publish in the GeoCommunicator. The contact information provided should be for support representatives that can assist with user inquiries.

Once registered, you will be asked provide specific information (metadata) to describe each map or data set that you wish to publish through the GeoCommunicator. You will be able to supplement or update this information later as necessary.

*Full Organization Name: (36 characters)

*Abbreviated Org. Name: (16 characters)

Organization Profile: (brief description of organization; up to 120 words)

Document: Done



Share Your Data, Activities, or Events



Publish **links and metadata** to your map or feature service, map image, geoservice, spatial solution, clearinghouse, request for partners, reference or geographic activity.

Once your publisher account is established you can register the link and metadata of your content.

The screenshot shows a Netscape browser window titled "GeoCommunicator - Content Registration - Netscape". The address bar shows the URL "http://gmsstaging.esri.com/geocomm/register/reference.cfm". The browser's toolbar includes buttons for Back, Forward, Reload, Home, Search, Netscape, Print, Security, Shop, and Stop. The page header features a large "G" logo and the text "GeoCommunicator Powered by the Geography Network". A blue sidebar on the left contains links: Home, About, Forum, Reference, GeoCom Explorer, Land Manager Viewer, Publish: Data, Activities, and References, Land Survey Information, Contact, and Learn to:.

The main content area is titled "Content Registration" (highlighted with a red box). It contains the following text: "Please enter the requested information below for the content that you would like to publish through GeoCommunicator and the Geography Network. The required fields are noted with asterisk. These fields were chosen to meet the minimum collection requirements of the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Content Standards for Digital Geospatial Metadata. For information on these elements, please refer to the [Metadata Help File](#). Please provide as much information as you can for your content."

The form includes the following fields:

- *Content Entered By:
- *Phone Number:
- *Content ID (for update purposes):
- Citation:
 - *Content Developer Type:
 - Content Developer:
 - *Title of Content:

The status bar at the bottom of the browser window displays "Document: Done".



Forum and Reference



GeoCommunicator Forum

The **forums** are intended to get you connected to users and publishers in the GeoCommunicator and the Geography Network. You can use this tool to help find certain types of data, make suggestions for content you'd like to see, or get tips on how to publish content yourself.



GeoCommunicator References

The **reference** section contains searchable links to related land record sites containing reference material. Such as links to the GCDB home page and FDGC home page.





Search For Geographic Data - Define Search Area



There are **five** ways to quickly and easily search for geographic data:

Search by **place name**



Search by highlighting an area on the **map**



GeoCommunicator Explorer - Microsoft Internet Explorer

HOME CONTACT US HELP

FIND CONTENT VIEW CONTENT

Search Township & Range Favorites

1 Type place name & press Go:
Denver FIND
or draw search area ☐

2 Define search criteria
Content Developer Type:
<All Developer Types>
Choose content type:
Live Data and Maps
Choose content theme:
<All Content Themes>
Optional Keyword (e.g., river):
Date Range (YYYYMMDD):
From To
START SEARCH

How to search the GeoCommunicator Explorer

The GeoCommunicator Explorer enables you to discover and access geographic content. You may also subscribe to a search area and receive notification when new or updated data or activities occur. Use the search tools in the left window to find content for your area of interest. Use the Township & Range tab to search by Meridian, Township, and Range. Use the Favorites tab to search by a saved search criteria or content.

1 Define Search Area.

Either

Type in a place name and press Find. A list of places that match what you typed will appear. Choose the place you want from this list.

Or

Draw a box on the map with the ☐ tool to define the area you want to search.

2 Define Search Criteria.

To refine your search, you can select the type of developer for the



Search For Geographic Data - By Township & Lat/Long



Search for geographic data by selecting the **Township** tab.

The screenshot shows the GeoCommunicator Explorer web application in a Netscape browser window. The 'FIND CONTENT' tab is active, and the 'Township' sub-tab is selected, highlighted with a red box. The 'DEFINE TOWNSHIP & RANGE CRITERIA' section contains the following fields: State (dropdown menu with 'ALL' selected), Principal Meridian (dropdown menu with 'ALL' selected), Township (text input field), Township Direction (dropdown menu with 'Any' selected), Range (text input field), and Range Direction (dropdown menu with 'Any' selected). A 'Search' button is located at the bottom of this section. To the right, the 'VIEW CONTENT' section displays 'How to Use Township Search' instructions.

Search for geographic data by selecting the **Latitude and Longitude** tab.

The screenshot shows the GeoCommunicator Explorer web application in a Netscape browser window. The 'FIND CONTENT' tab is active, and the 'Latitude & Longitude' sub-tab is selected, highlighted with a red box. The 'DEFINE LATITUDE and LONGITUDE' section contains the following fields: Decimal Longitude (text input field) and Decimal Latitude (text input field). A 'Locate' button is located at the bottom of this section. Below this, the 'DEFINE DEGREES - MINUTES - SECONDS' section contains the following fields: Longitude (Degree, Minute, Second input fields), Latitude (Degree, Minute, Second input fields), and a 'Locate' button. To the right, the 'VIEW CONTENT' section displays 'How to Use Latitude and Longitude Search' instructions.

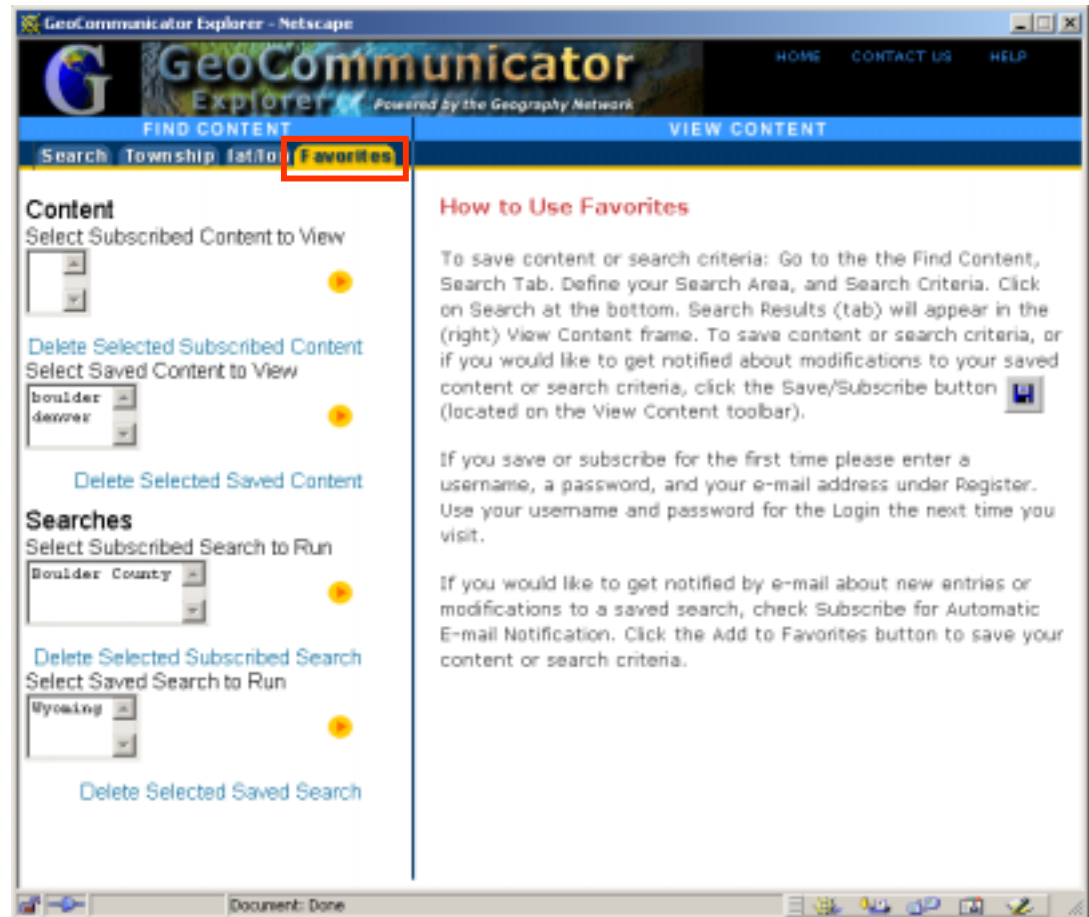


Search for Geographic Data - By Saved Criteria



Search for geographic data by selecting the **Favorites** tab.

Previously saved searches and contents can be used to rerun searches or go to specific content.





Search For Geographic Data - Set Search Criteria

Refine your search for data with detailed search criteria, such as:

Content Developer Type

Content Type

Content Theme

Keywords

Date Range

GeoCommunicator Explorer

HOME CONTACT US HELP

FIND CONTENT VIEW CONTENT

Search Township Favorites

1 Type place name & press Go:
Denver FIND

or draw search area:

2 Define search criteria

Content Developer Type:
[Call Developer Types]

Choose content type:
[Live Data and Maps]

Choose content theme:
[Call Content Themes]

Optional keyword (e.g., river):

Date Range (YYYYMMDD):
From To

START SEARCH

How to search the GeoCommunicator Explorer

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1 Define Search Area.

Either

Type in a place name and press Find. A list of places that match what you typed will appear. Choose the place you want from this list.

Or

Draw a box on the map with the tool to define the area you want to search.

2 Define Search Criteria.

To refine your search, you can select the type of developer for this

Done Internet

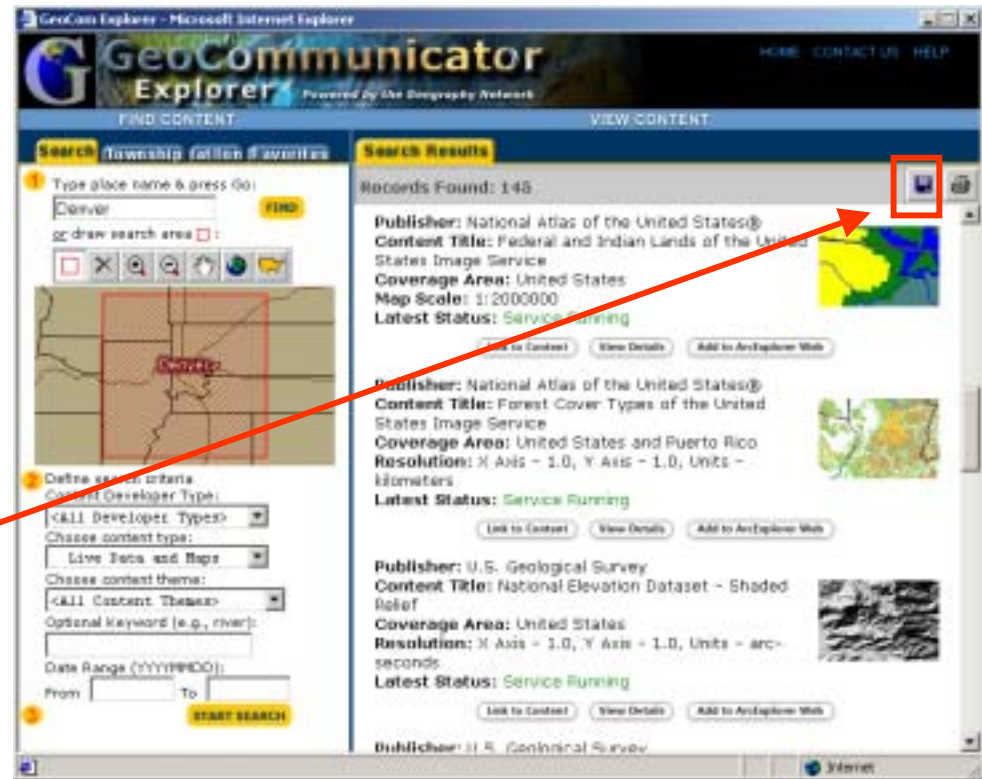


View Search Results



View **metadata** about data, maps, map services, references, activities, etc. occurring within your selected area of interest.

Save your selection criteria and/or content by pressing the **save** button.





Save Search Results and Subscribe



Once you have set a user name and password you may **save** your search criteria and/or a specific content.

The screenshot shows the GeoCommunicator website interface. At the top, there is a header with the 'G' logo and the text 'GeoCommunicator Powered by the Geography Network'. Below the header, there are two main sections: 'Login' and 'Register'. The 'Login' section has fields for 'Username:' and 'Password:', followed by a 'Login' button. The 'Register' section has fields for 'Username:', 'Password:', and 'E-mail:', followed by a 'Register' button. At the bottom of the page, there is a 'Go!' button and the URL 'www.geocommunicator.gov'.

Subscribe to the search area or content and receive **notification by Email** of updates and new content by checking the **Subscribe** box. The saved content will be added to your **Favorites** list.



The screenshot shows the GeoCommunicator website interface. At the top, there is a header with the 'G' logo and the text 'GeoCommunicator Powered by the Geography Network'. Below the header, there is a section titled 'Save the search linked below to run later or subscribe for automatic e-mail notification when a record is published or updated in your subscribed favorite.' Below this text, there is a 'Search Criteria for Selected Area:' section. This section includes a 'Search Name:' field, a checkbox labeled 'Subscribe for Automatic E-mail Notification', and an 'Add to Favorites' button. At the bottom of the page, there is a 'Go!' button and the URL 'www.geocommunicator.gov'.



View Search Results-Metadata



To view detailed **metadata** about the content select the "View Details" button.





View Search Results-Live Map



To view a map live, click on the "Add to ArcExplorer Web" button to bring the content of the image service into the **Map Viewer**.

You may bring more than one image service into ArcExplorer Web for viewing.





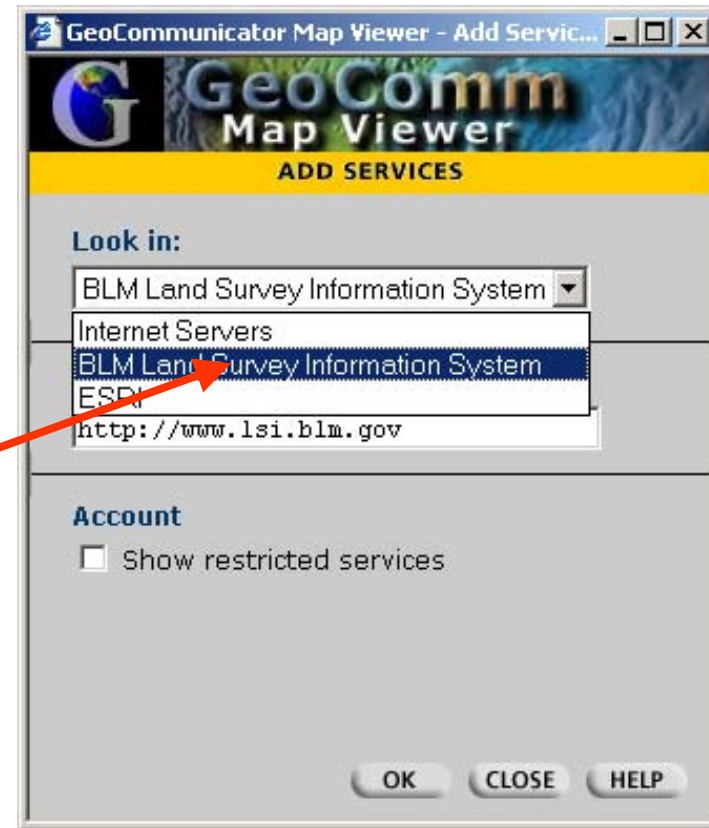
View Search Results-Integrate BLM Land Survey Data



To integrate Land Survey Information System data with other content select "+" for Add Services.

From the Add Services window, select BLM Land Survey Information System. Select OK.

Select the streaming service **BLM_LSIS**.
The streaming service URL is **www.lsi.blm.gov**.



Add the Map Server - BLM Land Survey Information System

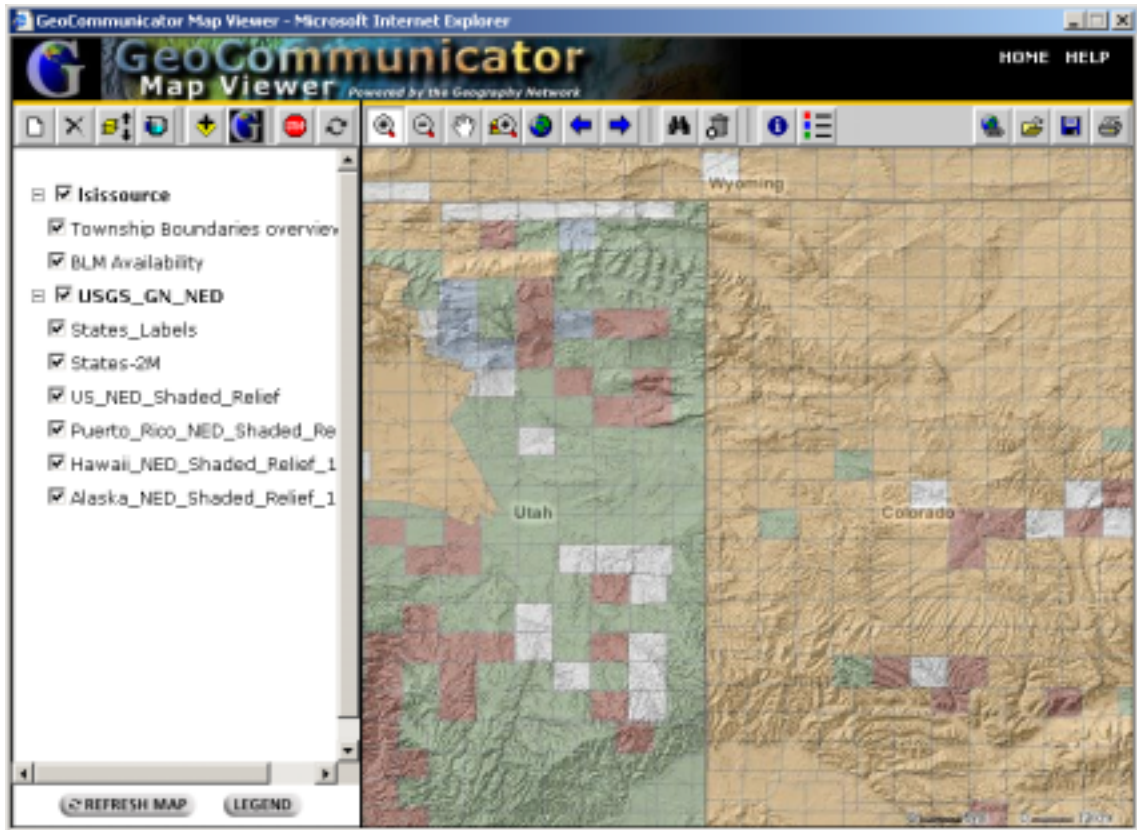


View Search Results- Map Viewer



The **Map Viewer** uses ArcExplorer Web to stream the content from 1 or more image services selected from your search results.

This map shows 2 image services. The top layer is the available townships from the Public Land Survey System overlaid onto the USGS Shaded Relief.



This allows you to view the content of many image services to determine the relevance of the data. You can change layer order and opacity.



View Search Results-Link to Content



To link directly to the content click on the "Link to Content" button.

The screenshot displays the GeoCommunicator Explorer web application interface. The left sidebar contains search filters, and the main area shows search results for 'Denver'. A red arrow points from the text 'Link to Content' to the 'Link to Content' button in the first search result.

GeoCommunicator Explorer
Powered by The Geography Network

FIND CONTENT

Search **Township** **Station** **Favorites**

1 Type place name & press Go:
Denver **FIND**
or draw search area:

2 Define search criteria
Content Developer Type: <All Developer Types>
Choose content type: Live Data and Maps
Choose content theme: <All Content Themes>
Optional Keyword (e.g., river):
Date Range (YYYYMMDD):
From To
START SEARCH

VIEW CONTENT

Search Results

Records Found: 145

Publisher: National Atlas of the United States®
Content Title: Federal and Indian Lands of the United States Image Service
Coverage Area: United States
Map Scale: 1:2000000
Latest Status: Service Running
[Link to Content](#) [View Details](#) [Add to ArcExplorer Web](#)

Publisher: National Atlas of the United States®
Content Title: Forest Cover Types of the United States Image Service
Coverage Area: United States and Puerto Rico
Resolution: X Axis = 1.0, Y Axis = 1.0, Units = kilometers
Latest Status: Service Running
[Link to Content](#) [View Details](#) [Add to ArcExplorer Web](#)

Publisher: U.S. Geological Survey
Content Title: National Elevation Dataset - Shaded Relief
Coverage Area: United States
Resolution: X Axis = 1.0, Y Axis = 1.0, Units = arc-seconds
Latest Status: Service Running
[Link to Content](#) [View Details](#) [Add to ArcExplorer Web](#)

Publisher: U.S. Geological Survey

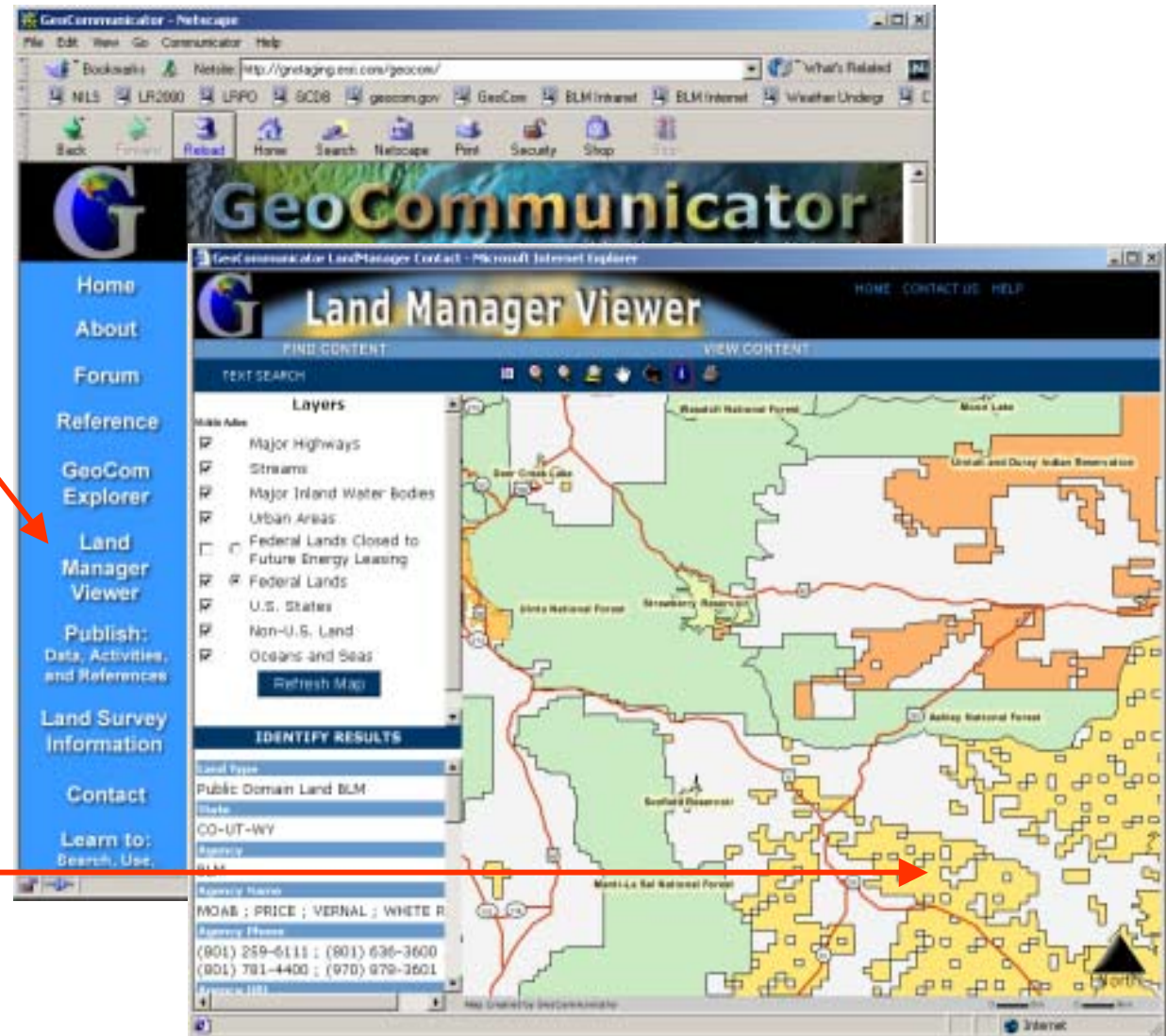


Land Manager Viewer



The **Land Manager Viewer** allows you to interact with maps containing Federal land boundaries.

You can click on the Federal land and receive information about which agency is responsible for the land and who to contact.





Land Manager Viewer Text Search



You can use the **text search** to locate the land management agency by

- BLM District
- Forest Service Region
- Federal Land Name
- Township
- Decimal degree

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Geocommunicator Land Manager Text Search - Microsoft Internet Explorer". The page has a header with the title "Land Manager Viewer Text Search" and a globe icon. Below the header, there are three steps for the search process:

- Step 1: select a type for query**
A dropdown menu is set to "BLM District".
- Step 2: give the search criteria (optional)**
A "District:" dropdown menu is set to "All Districts".
A "State:" text input field contains "e.g. CA".
- Step 3: specify the extent (optional)**
The "Search by township" radio button is selected.
Under "Search by township":
 - "State of the Township:" dropdown is set to "All".
 - "Principal Meridian:" dropdown is set to "All".
 - "Township:" text input field is empty.
 - "Township Direction:" dropdown is set to "Any".
 - "Range:" text input field is empty.
 - "Range Direction:" dropdown is set to "Any".
- The "Search by decimal degree" radio button is unselected.
Under "Search by decimal degree":
 - "West Bounding Coordinate:" text input field is empty, with "e.g. -120.5" to its right.
 - "South Bounding Coordinate:" text input field is empty, with "e.g. 30.4" to its right.
 - "East Bounding Coordinate:" text input field is empty, with "e.g. -119.8" to its right.
 - "North Bounding Coordinate:" text input field is empty, with "e.g. 30.5" to its right.

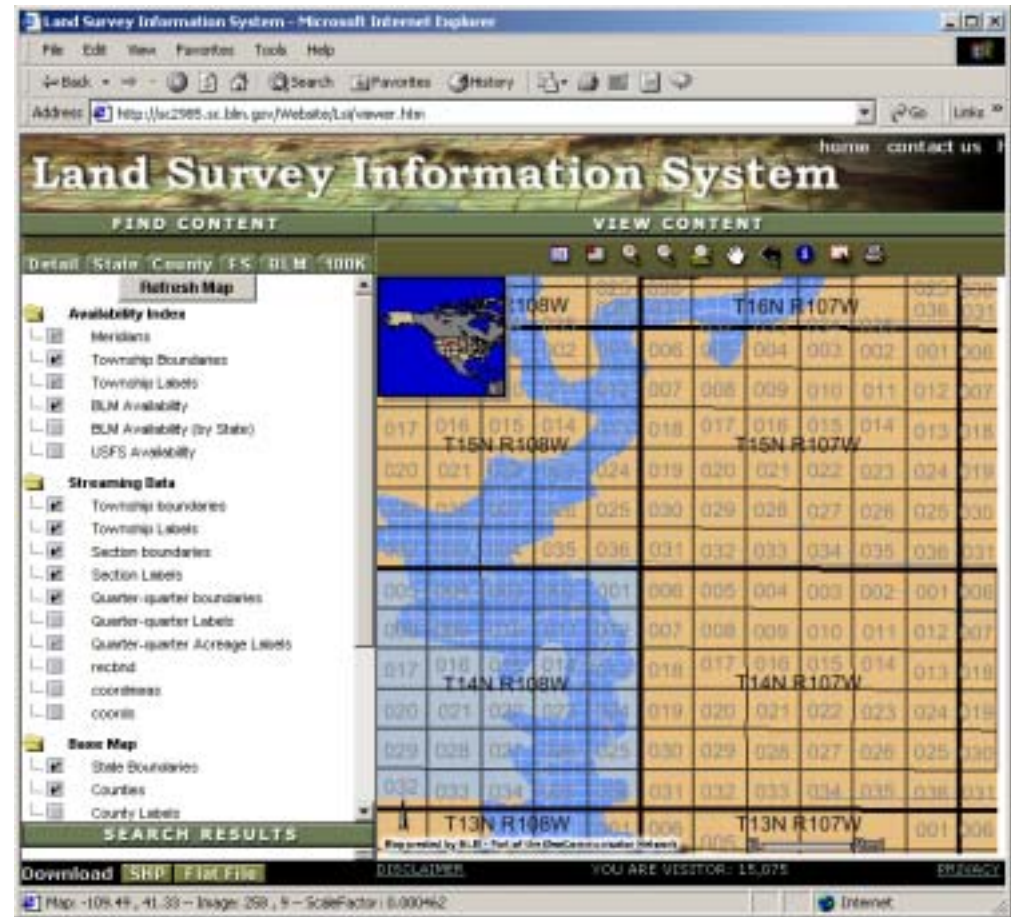
At the bottom, there is a blue "Search" button and a note: "Note: search is case-sensitive." The browser's status bar at the bottom shows "Done" and "Internet".



Land Survey Information



The **Land Survey Information System** contains survey-based land descriptions representing the Public Land Survey System (PLSS) of the U.S. The data is available for free and can be downloaded or streamed live to your desktop.





How to BLM Uses GeoCommunicator *(one example)*

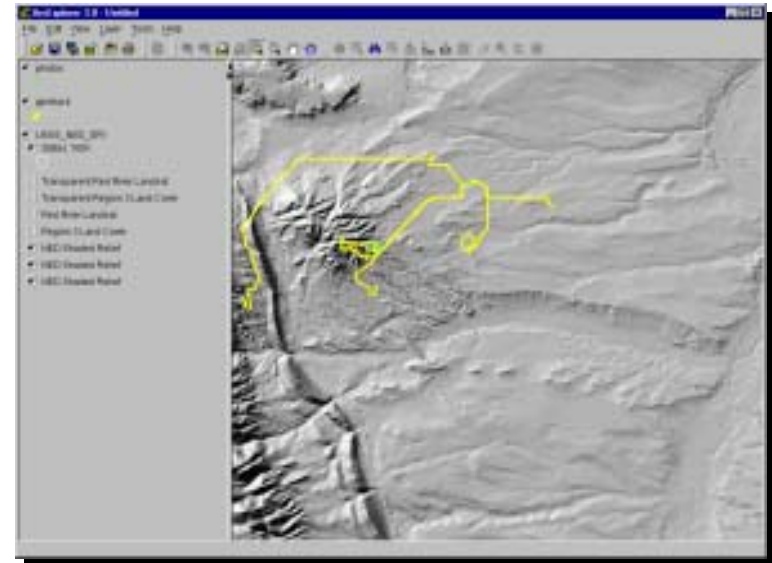


GeoCommunicator



GeoCommunicator is used to search for multiple data sources. Once data sources are found GeoCommunicator is used to visually review the map service and to obtain the map service URL.

Arc Explorer



ArcExplorer (a free GIS tool) or any other GIS tool is then used to display the multiple data sources using the map service URL and data from the user's own computer.



Search & View - Step 1



From the GeoCommunicator home page click the "Explorer" button to launch GeoCommunicator Explorer.

Alternatively, you can click on "GeoCom Explorer" in the left frame.





Search & View - Step 2



Define the "Search Area" in the Find Content window using one of the five methods. Select "Find" if you use the "Place Name" search.

Next define the "Search Criteria" and then click on the "Start Search" button to display the results.





Search & View - Step 3



Explore your findings in the "View Content" window.

You can view the map streamed directly to your browser by selecting "Add to ArcExplorer Web".

For more information on the content, click on "View Details".



In the "View Details" scroll to the bottom of the page to obtain the Map Server URL information of your findings.

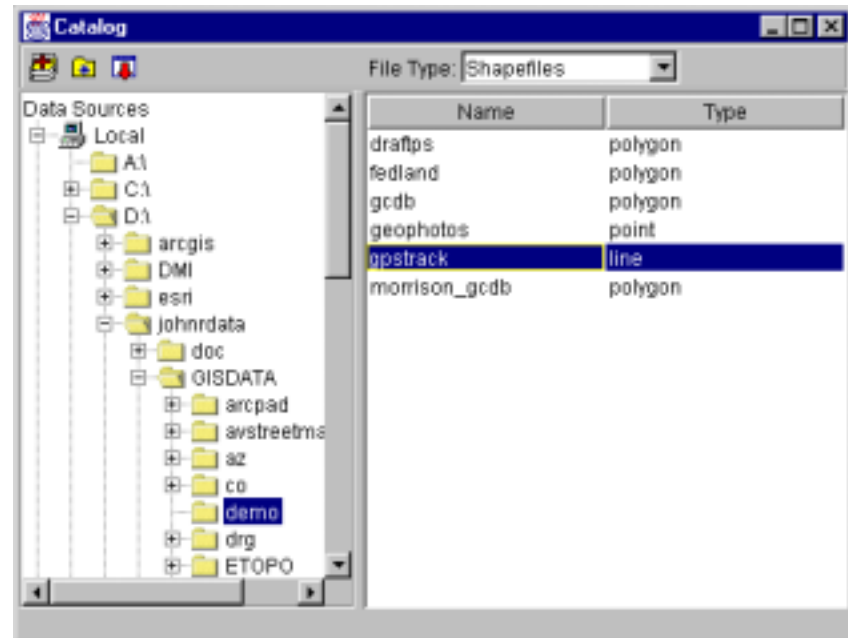


Integrate Findings - Step 4



Spatial data located using GeoCommunicator can be integrated with your own local spatial data sets or the land survey information system (LSIS) data.

You will need a GIS viewer that allows URLs as a data source, e.g. ESRI's free GIS browser [ArcExplorer 3.1 Java Edition](#).



To integrate local data, select from the ArcExplorer pull down menu: Layer; Add Layer; Local, then browse your directories for local shape file data.

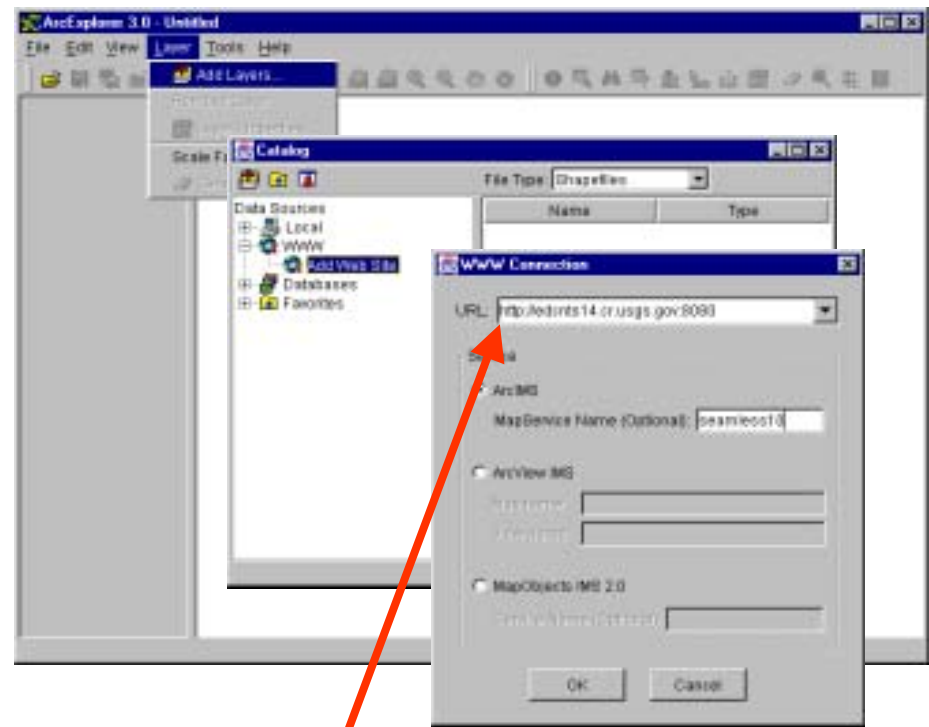


Integrate Findings - Step 5



Any site that serves data with ArcIMS or WMS can be added as a WWW source and displayed in ArcExplorer Java.

To integrate data from the WWW, select from the ArcExplorer pull down menu, "Add Layers". From the Catalog window, expand the WWW branch and select, "Add Web Site".



Add the Map Server URL from GeoCommunicator.

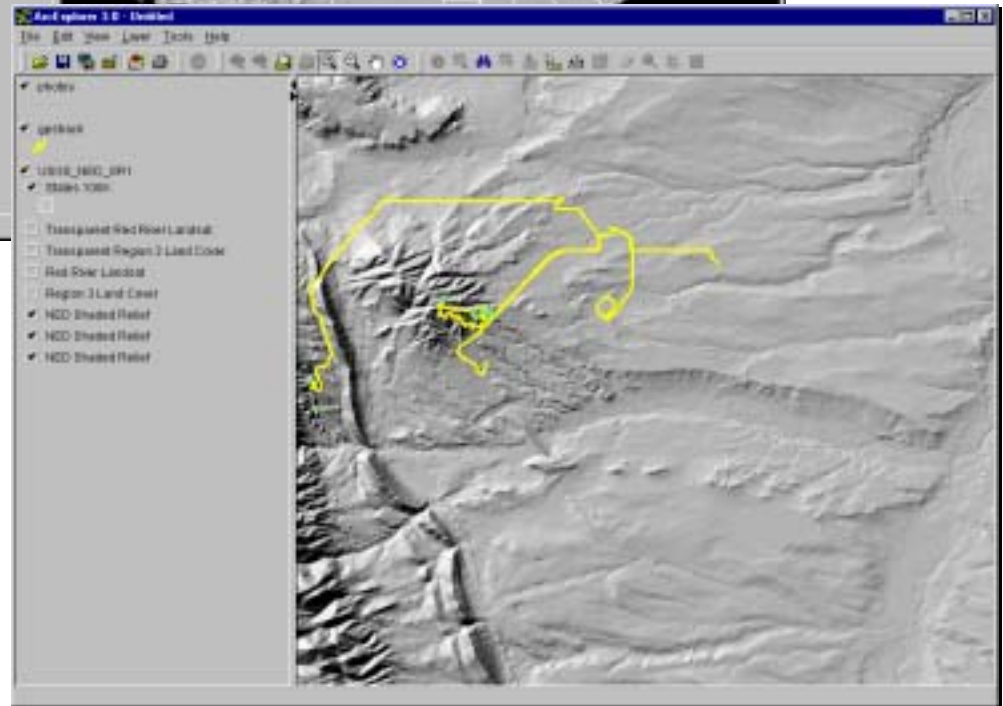
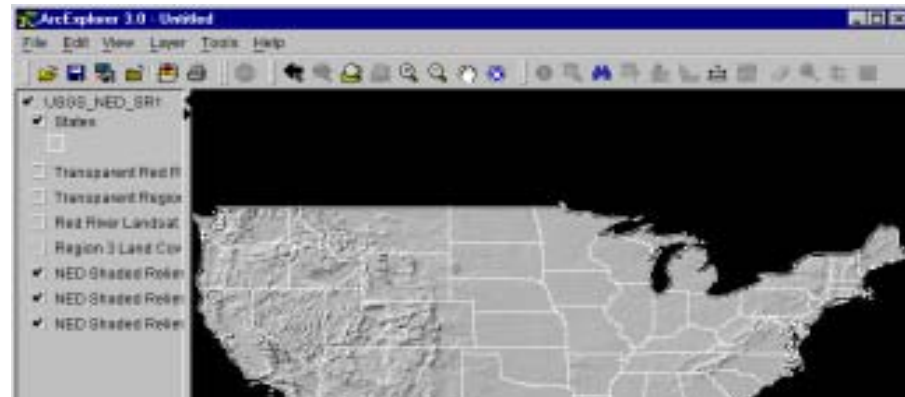


Integrate Findings - Step 6



WWW-Example: U.S. Geological Survey provides 1:24,000-scale Digital Elevation Model (DEM) data for the conterminous US and 1:63,360-scale DEM data for Alaska. The shaded relief display is derived from NED using a hill-shade technique.

Local data is displayed with shaded relief data served from GeoCommunicator.

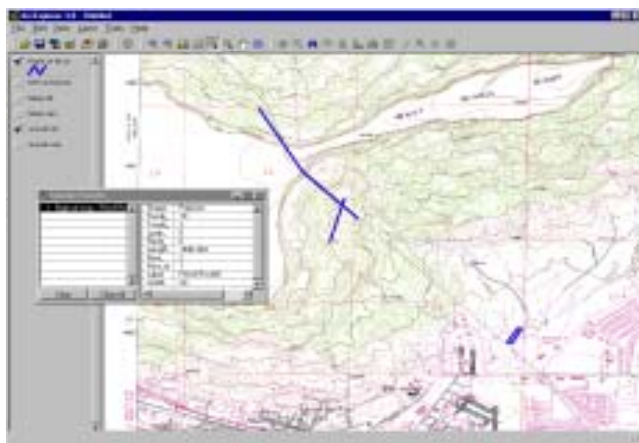




Other Examples



Local Right-of-way data over a plat map



Local Right-of-way data over a
Quad map



Local Right-of-way data over an
aerial photograph



GeoCommunicator Web site



Thank you for taking the tour!

www.geocommunicator.gov

Visit the NILS project Web site: **www.blm.gov/nils**